

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
FORT WORTH DIVISION**

BILLY W. WASS,

Plaintiff,

v.

AMERIGROUP TEXAS, INC.,

Defendant.

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Civil Action No. 4:20-cv-00445-BP

ORDER

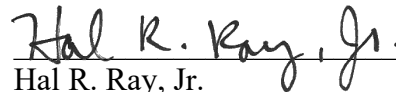
Before the Court is a Motion to Extend Time filed by Plaintiff Billy W. Wass (“Wass”) on August 17, 2020. ECF No. 18. Plaintiff requests an extension of sixty days to file his amended complaint due to a recent injury and the medication he is taking in response to that injury.

The Court notes that Wass does not include a certificate of conference with his filing. This certificate tells the Court if the Defendant’s lawyer opposes his request or, if Wass was not able to confer with the Defendant’s lawyer, would document his efforts to contact her and secure her consent to the extension of time that he requests. The Local Civil Rules of the Court require a certificate of conference on most motions, including a motion to extend time. *See* Local Civil Rule 7.1(b) and (h). The Local Civil Rules of the Northern District of Texas can be accessed online at the following address: <http://www.txnd.uscourts.gov/civil-rules>. The Court recognizes that Wass is not a lawyer and is not represented by one in this case. Under these circumstances, the Court will consider his request without requiring a certificate of conference this one time. However, the Court cautions Wass that even though he is not represented by a lawyer, he must comply with the Local Civil Rules, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Federal Rules of Evidence just like all other parties who are represented by a lawyer.

Although Wass states in his Motion that he has not read the Court's previous Memorandum and Opinion (ECF No. 16), it is clear from the Motion that he understands what he has to do in order to amend his pleadings and has the capabilities to object to the time requirements imposed by the Court. The wording of the Motion also reflects that Wass is physically able to amend his pleading if he chooses to do so. Accordingly, for good cause shown, the Motion is **GRANTED IN PART**. Wass shall file an amended complaint that complies with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and addresses the deficiencies noted in the Court's previous Memorandum and Opinion **on or before August 31, 2020**. *See* ECF No. 16.

The Court cautions Wass that failure to comply with this Order could result in dismissal of this case pursuant to Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

It is so **ORDERED** on August 18, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Hal R. Ray, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

Hal R. Ray, Jr.

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE